

HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). NASDA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which represents the commissioners, secretaries, and directors of agriculture from all fifty states and four U.S. territories. The State departments of agriculture have served not only the farmers and ranchers of America, but also American consumers for a significant portion of our nation's history.

NASDA is a highly effective association which serves to grow and enhance agriculture by forging partnerships and creating consensus to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government, and stakeholders. These partnerships are apparent in the halls of almost every office building in the District of Columbia. I rely on the hard-working men and women in the Texas Department of Agriculture to provide me with perspectives on how federal policy is impacting boots on the ground agriculture. I'm sure my colleagues rely on their state department of agriculture in similar ways.

NASDA is an active partner with the United States Department of Agriculture through a longstanding cooperative agreement to employ a nationwide network of enumerators in support of the mission of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The data collected through this partnership informs a broad spectrum of legislative and regulatory initiatives, including farm programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture which I have the honor to chair.

NASDA and its members likewise play a critical role informing Congress and the executive branch regarding the operation of federal and state programs covering everything from animal and plant health, food safety and marketing, nutrition, and literally hundreds of other consumer services.

NASDA exists to amplify the unique voice of all state departments of agriculture. NASDA members are able to amplify their national voice by achieving consensus on otherwise contentious issues such as threatened and endangered species, agriculture labor, and water quality.

Mr. Speaker, I join the members and stakeholders of NASDA in celebrating their 100th year of advocating for American agriculture. I wish NASDA many more years of public service to American agriculture at the critical nexus of state and federal policy.

RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise in

honor of Black History Month and its 2016 theme—Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories. This year's theme reflects on locations across the United States that are remembered for the important role each has played in pursuit of civil rights and justice.

As Americans, it is important that we honor and celebrate our nation's greatest advocates for freedom and equal rights for all. During this month and always, we pay tribute to the heroes of American history as we recall the tremendous sacrifice and the immense struggle of those who fought, and continue to fight, for equality, and the remarkable impact their contributions have had in shaping our great nation.

From generation to generation, from those who have experienced or witnessed events that have led to change to the young children who listen to stories of their grandparents or the lessons taught in school, locations, much like the names of those who have toiled in hopes of a better society, are forever engrained in the hearts and minds of the American people. From the birthplaces of our greatest African American leaders to stops along the Underground Railroad, from sites of tragic events that brought about change to the churches that have inspired hope among communities for generations, each is a reminder of the past and the progress we have made, while recognizing there is much more work to be done.

As a lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, born and raised in Gary, Indiana, I had the opportunity to witness a truly historic moment. In November 1967, residents of Gary went to the polls and elected Richard Gordon Hatcher, a civil rights leader who spoke alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., mayor of the city. His election, along with the election of Carl Burton Stokes of Cleveland, Ohio, marked the first time in our nation's history that American cities with more than 100,000 residents would be led by African American mayors. In January 1968, Mayor Hatcher was sworn into office, a position in which he proudly served for the next twenty years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who persevered in the name of equality and social justice. As we reflect on the many historic sites throughout America that have played such a critical role in changing our nation's landscape, let us never forget the struggle of our predecessors while continuing the pursuit of the betterment of society for all.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED CHIEF JIMMY CAGLE OF BERRYDALE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and dedicated service of Chief Jimmy Cagle of Berrydale, Florida who died on January 24, 2016. Chief Cagle was a patriot, committed community leader, and devoted family man, and Northwest Florida mourns his passing.

For more than two decades, Chief Cagle served our Nation honorably in the United States Navy as a boiler tender and firefighter. Following his military service, Chief Cagle continued his service to his local community and joined the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department, where he served as Chief for 25 years. Under his steadfast leadership, the residents of the Berrydale community slept soundly, knowing that they are under the watchful eye of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department.

Through his service, Chief Cagle became a staple in Northwest Florida. Those who knew him best can truly attest to his selflessness and compassion. He will be remembered for devotion to the Berrydale community and fire department, which was rivaled only by his love for his family.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life of Chief Jimmy Cagle. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to his wife of 25 years, Debbie; daughter, Conda and her husband, Randy Sasser; son, Jim; grandchildren, Kassie and her husband, Matt DiMase, Lt. Josh Sasser and his wife, Katie, Chelsea and her husband, Staff Sgt. Cody Belcher, and Kaitlyn, Brianna, and Cody Pugh; great-grandchildren: Reece, Kolby, Kennedy, Landon, Mattingly, and Macelynn; and the entire Cagle and fire department families.

HONORING MR. RONALD V. DELLUMS

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ronald V. Dellums on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Mr. Dellums has had an incredible career in public service, advocating for change and reform in many areas of government affairs.

A proud Oakland native. Ron attended both McClymonds and Oakland Technical High School, and went on to graduate from San Francisco State University after serving for two years in the United States Marine Corps. He later obtained his Masters of Social Work from the University of California, Berkeley.

Mr. Dellums began his career as a psychiatric social worker and political activist for the African-American community. In 1967, he was elected to the Berkeley City Council, where he provided three years of extraordinary service. In 1970, he was elected to serve the 9th Congressional District of California in the United States House of Representatives. During his 27-year tenure in Congress, Mr. Dellums fought strongly for peace, justice and equality. As a freshman member, he adamantly spoke in opposition to the Vietnam War, going as far as setting up an exhibit of war crimes next to his office.

For fourteen years, he campaigned to end the apartheid policies in South Africa. In 1986, the U.S. House of Representatives passed his sponsored legislation, the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act, which placed trade restrictions against South Africa and led to immediate withdrawal by American firms. Although the bill had broad bipartisan support, it was vetoed by President Ronald Reagan. However, the Senate and the House overrode